

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method of managing traffic in a first set of nodes of a computer network having first set of nodes and a second set of nodes comprising:
  - determining a source associated with an amount of network traffic over the first set of nodes which exceeds a threshold, the source being outside a group of network elements assigned to the first set of nodes; and
  - automatically displaying an indication of the source in response to determining the source, wherein determining the source includes:
    - determining top talker sources over the first VLAN and a second VLAN;
    - determining VLAN identifiers for the top talker sources; and
    - displaying the indication if the VLAN identifier of at least one of the top talker sources is not the same as the VLAN identifier of a VLAN being tested.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the indication is a user name associated with the source.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the source is assigned to the second VLAN, the method comprising:
  - reassigning the source to the first VLAN in response to determining the source.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the source is automatically reassigned.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein traffic data is obtained from the first VLAN using a network management protocol.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the traffic data is obtained using a remote monitoring protocol.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the determination of the source includes determining the top sources of traffic on the first VLAN.

9. (Previously presented) A computer for managing traffic in a first set of nodes of a computer network having a first set of nodes and a second set of nodes, the computer comprising:

- a display; and

- a processor configured to:

- determine a source associated with an amount of network traffic over a first set of nodes which exceeds a threshold,

- determine whether the source is outside a group of network elements assigned to the first set of nodes by checking top talker data to determine which of a plurality of top talker sources are not from the first set of nodes, the processor configured to automatically send to the display an indication of the source in response to determining the source, wherein the first set of nodes is a first VLAN and the second set of nodes is a second VLAN.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously presented) The computer of claim 9, wherein the indication is a user name associated with the source.

12. (Previously presented) The computer of claim 9, wherein the source is assigned to the second VLAN, and wherein the processor is configured to reassign the source to the first VLAN in response to determining the source.

13. (Previously presented) The computer of claim 9, wherein the processor is configured to obtain traffic data from the first VLAN using a network management protocol.

14. (Previously presented) The computer of claim 13, wherein the processor is configured to obtain traffic data using a remote monitoring protocol.

15. (Previously presented) The computer of claim 9, wherein the processor is configured to identify any sources of traffic which are associated with a given threshold of traffic on the first VLAN.

16. (Previously Presented) A system for managing traffic in a first set of nodes of a computer network comprising:

a first set of nodes; and

a computer coupled with the first set of nodes and configured to determine a source associated with an amount of network traffic over the first set of nodes which exceeds a threshold, and to further determine whether the source is outside a group of network elements assigned to the first set of nodes by accessing source identifiers of top talker sources from management data, the computer configured to automatically display an indication of the source in response to determining the source, wherein the first set of nodes is a first VLAN and a second set of nodes is a second VLAN.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) The system of claim 16, wherein the indication is a user name associated with the source.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the source is assigned to the second VLAN within the system, and wherein the computer is configured to reassign the source to the first VLAN in response to determining the source.

20. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the computer is configured to obtain traffic data from the first VLAN using a network management protocol.

21. (Previously presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the computer is configured to obtain traffic data from the first VLAN using a remote monitoring protocol.

22. (Previously presented) The system of claim 16, wherein the computer is configured to identify any sources of traffic which are associated with a given threshold of traffic on the first VLAN.

23. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium containing a program executable by a processor for managing traffic in a first set of nodes of a computer network having a first set of nodes and a second set of nodes, the program comprising:  
determining a source associated with an amount of network traffic over the first set of nodes which exceeds a threshold,

determining whether the source is outside a group of network elements assigned to the first set of nodes based on whether source identifiers for top talker sources are the same as a source identifier for the first set of nodes; and

automatically displaying an indication of the source in response to determining the source, wherein the first set of nodes is a first VLAN and the second set of nodes is a second VLAN.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) The computer-readable medium containing a program of claim 23, wherein the indication is a user name associated with the source.

26. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium containing a program of claim 23, wherein the source is assigned to the second VLAN, the method comprising:

reassigning the source to the first VLAN in response to determining the source.

27. (Original) The computer-readable medium containing a program of claim 26, wherein the source is automatically reassigned.

28. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium containing a program of claim 23, wherein traffic data is obtained from the first VLAN using a network management protocol.

29. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium containing a program of claim 28, wherein the traffic data is obtained using a remote monitoring protocol.

30. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium containing a program of claim 23, wherein the determination of the source includes identifying any sources of traffic which are associated with a given threshold of traffic on the first VLAN.